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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/077,157	02/15/2002	Fumihiko Kimura	JP20000002US1	1271

23550 7590 10/18/2005

HOFFMAN WARNICK & D'ALESSANDRO, LLC
75 STATE STREET
14TH FL
ALBANY, NY 12207

EXAMINER

RAO, SHEELA S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2125

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/077,157

Applicant(s)

KIMURA ET AL.

Examiner

Sheela Rao

Art Unit

2125

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,9,13 and 14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,9,13 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed on August 9, 2005 is acknowledged and has been made of record.
2. The amendment submitted after the Final rejection has been entered and considered.
3. Claims 1-4, 9, and 13-14 are pending and presented for examination. Claims 5-8, 10-12, and 15-20 have been cancelled.

Response to Amendment

4. The rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 USC §102(e) over Harrison et al. (USPN 6,611,725) is **maintained**. The rejection is restated below as it pertains to currently pending claims 1-4, 9, and 13-14.
5. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
6. Claims 1-4, 9, and 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Harrison, et al. (USPN 6,611,725 B1).

The patented invention by Harrison, et al. (hereinafter, "Harrison") teaches of a "computer-implemented method and apparatus for processing a design model generated by a CAD system." In doing so, the reference discloses the use of a "generation means" which accesses stored data that details construction design and then processes the data to generate images and tags to associate the images with the model component. A drawing document or vector drawing data is also made which constitutes geometric data of the model and has tag data associated with the image. See column 2: lines 30, et seq.; Figures 1, 2A and 2B.

The computerized modeling system used by the patented invention comprises a CPU, a display device, and a storage device among other components. CAD software is used to execute the software applications of the apparatus. The software is stored within the system's storage device and allows the

user to create and modify models to produce drawings and data. The display device is used to show graphical representations of the modeling design. See column 4: lines 35, et seq.; column 6: lines 47-53.

The drawing documents that are created from the three-dimensional models can be enhanced through the use of annotations added by the user using the computer based annotation tools. The association of the annotated data and the image elements provides linkage to components of the design model to better assist in designing and maintaining part information. For the reasons stated above, the limitations of the claimed invention is taught by the prior arts of record; thereby, rendering the instant claims unpatentable.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed May 16, 2005 and again with the RCE on August 9, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant begins by arguing that the reference of prior art to Harrison fails to teach or suggest "the generation of bi-directional relationship information representing a correlation between design information used for a design operation, and geometry data that is obtained by the design operation." This issue has been clarified in the previous Office action. Wherein the relation between variables or data or information is stated as being inherent in a database since the art of searching databases can be executed in either direction. It is further stated that in the generation of data between design information and geometry data, a bi-directional relationship between the two types can easily be established since a correlation between the two forms of data exists.

Next, arguments regarding claims 1, 9, and 13 are stated. The presence of a "display means for employing said reference relationship information stored in said storage means to display linking information indicating that a reference relationship is established ..." and "means for obtaining said design information from said geometry data and for obtaining said geometry data from said design information, using said linking information" is not found in the patented invention by Harrison is stated. Examiner disagrees. In column 5, beginning at line 47, with reference to Figure 2, Harrison explains the use of a display means for showing the model with reference information as established between design and

geometry data. With regard to the obtaining of design information from geometry data and vice versa using linking information. Harrison teaches this aspect of the instant invention at column 3, line 3 et seq. and at column 4, line 37, et seq. The reference explains how the annotations or tag data for the design information are accomplished by the CAD system where the designs are associated with tag data.

Finally, arguments pertaining to claim 14 are made. Wherein it is stated that the reference to Harrison does not teach or suggest "multiple digital documents are present as the reference target, said reference target display means enables the computer to display a list of said multiple digital documents ...". Harrison uses the creation of a bolt assembly as an example in explaining the functionality of the patented invention. The presence of various documents and the CAD storing relationship data, so as to form a reference database is explained.

The limitation of the instant invention as per claims 1-4, 9, and 13-14 are taught and/or suggested by the reference of prior art to Harrison et al. For the reasons stated above, the claims remain rejected under 35 USC §102(e).

Conclusion

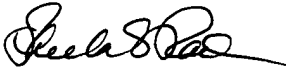
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sheela Rao whose telephone number is (571) 272-3751. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo Picard, can be reached on (571) 272-3749. The fax number for the organization where this application or any proceeding papers is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

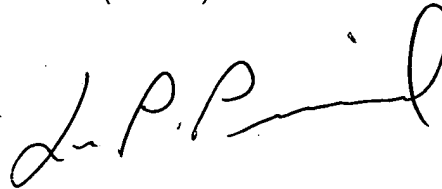
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. It should be noted that status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see

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<http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should any questions arise regarding access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Sheela S. Rao
October 4, 2005



LEO PICARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100